

In The Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 39, lines 10-11, with the following amended paragraph.

1) A first embodiment of the present invention, which includes various sub-embodiments, will be described.

Please replace the paragraph at page 53, lines 1-2, with the following amended paragraph.

2) A second embodiment of the present invention, which includes various sub-embodiments, will be described.

Please replace the paragraph at page 59, lines 10-11, with the following paragraph.

3) A third embodiment of the present invention, which includes various sub-embodiments, will be described.

Please replace the paragraph at page 63, lines 3-4, with the following amended paragraph.

4) A fourth embodiment of the present invention, which includes various sub-embodiments, will be described.

Please replace the paragraph at page 72, lines 1-2, with the following amended paragraph.

5) A fifth embodiment of the present invention, which includes various sub-embodiments, will be described.

Please replace the paragraph at page 77, line 34 to page 78, line 12 with the following amended paragraph.

In the above explanation, the explanation on a cooling drum is made assuming that the cooling drum is manufactured and used according to the conditions specified

B7
by the present invention before being used for thin slab casting. However, when a plated layer material of the outermost surface which has a possibility of the fine holes being abraded along with the progress of casting is selected, it is also possible, as shown in Fig. 23, to employ a means of continuously forming fine holes on a cooling drum, during casting, by pulsed laser processing at a certain position after the drum surface leaves the molten steel. In the configuration shown in Fig. 23, it is possible to form fine holes in the peripheral direction by condensing the pulsed laser beam 24 emitted from the laser oscillator 23 with a condenser 25 and irradiating the pulsed laser beam.

Please replace the paragraph at page 81, lines 1-2, with the following amended paragraph.

38 6) A sixth embodiment of the present invention, which includes various sub-embodiments, will be described.

Please replace the paragraph at page 92, lines 11-12, with the following amended paragraph.

39 7) A seventh embodiment of the present invention, which includes various sub-embodiments, will be described.
